

THE ANNUAL REPORT (1900)

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

URBAN DISTRICT OF SHANKLIN.

Gentlemen: -

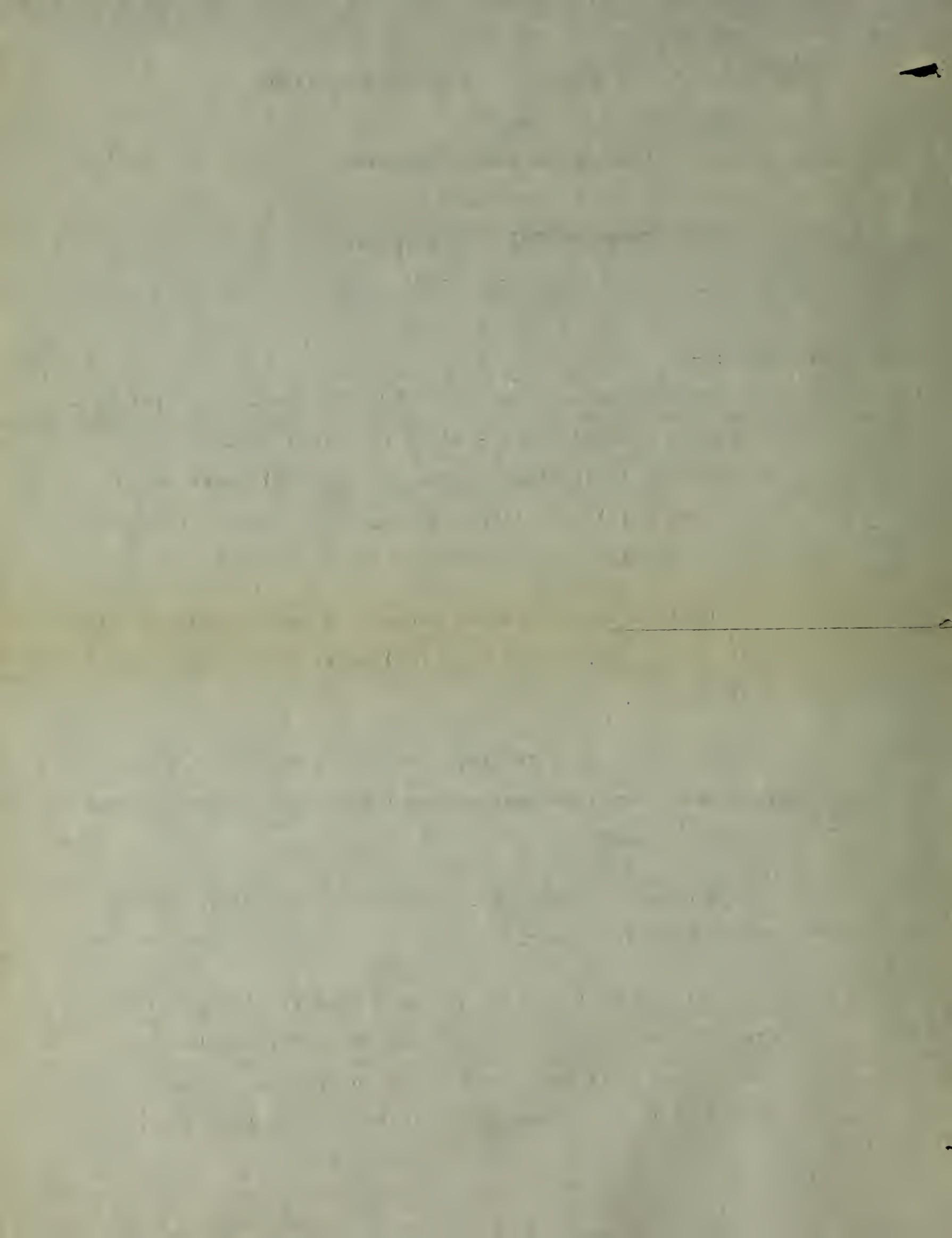
During the past year of 1900 there have been registered within your district - Sixty four (64) Births, viz. Thirty five (35) males and Twenty nine (29) females. Of these Eight (8) were illegitimate, that is the illegitimate births form 12.5% of the birth rate.

During the same period there have occurred Sixty seven (67) deaths viz. Thirty four (34) males and Thirty three (33) females.

The birth rate is therefore 12 per 1000 or 5.5 per 1000 less than last year, which latter was an average year in that respect.

The death rate is 12.5 per 1000 which is practically the same as last year.

This is as I pointed out last year about 1 per 1000 over our average death rate. The early part of the year contributed much the larger number of deaths, owing to the fact that Influenza was epidemic and many deaths are re-



corded as due to Bronchitis and other respiratory diseases which complicate that disease. Besides these complications Influenza itself is entered as the primary cause of death in four instances.

It is a remarkable fact that the birth rate is actually lower than the death rate. This curious disparity is not due to an abnormal death rate but to a peculiarly low birth rate in the district during the past year.

From the point of view of age the deaths have occurred as follows: -

Under 1 year		10 deaths.
Over 1 year and under 5 years		6
" 5 years " " 15 "		3
" 15 " " " 25 "		2
" 25 " " " 65 "		24
" 65 " " " "		22.
		67 Total

The various deaths were certified as due to the following causes: -

8 deaths were due to	Senile Decay.
7 " " " "	Cerebral Hemorrhage.
7 " " " "	Cancer.
6 " " " "	Phthisis.
4 " " " "	Influenza with Pneumonia.
4 " " " "	Bronchitis.

3	deaths were due to	Diseases of the Heart.
3	"	Infantile Asthenia.
2	"	Maldevelopment.
2	"	Pneumonia.
2	"	Meningitis.
2	"	Intestinal Obstruction.
2	"	Whooping cough.
I	death was due to	Cirrhosis.
I	"	Purpura.
I	"	Injury.
I	"	Measles.
I	"	Premature Birth.
I	"	Tubercular Meningitis.
I	"	Gastric Ulcer.
I	"	Alcoholism.
I	"	Rheumatic fever.
I	"	Hydrocephalus.
I	"	Diabetes.
I	"	Infantile Paralysis.
I	"	Rodent Ulcer.
I	"	Suicide.

67 Total.

It is a remarkable fact that during the past year I have not received a single notification of an infectious disease. I need hardly say that this is the first time during my term of office that this very extraordinary

record has been attained.

It will be observed however that we have been visited by the milder forms of zynotic diseases, for Whooping cough figures in the list as having been the cause of 2 deaths, while measles has claimed one victim. There have also been some cases of German measles or Röthlen of a very mild type of the disease.

The value of the Isolation Hospital is now manifest for we have not had a single case of scarlet fever in this district though several cases have occurred in the adjoining districts and have been very properly removed to the Isolation Hospital thereby preventing the spread of the disease which in my opinion it most undoubtedly has, for except for the Isolation Hospital we would clearly have had the disease in Shanklin during the past year.

The year of 1900 from a meteorological point of view was unlike the three preceding years, in that the summer was not exceedingly dry, indeed June shewed a rainfall of just over 3 ins. while August was just under 3 ins. As in the last four years the winter months were the wet months; January and February totalling over 10 ins. while November and December are responsible for nearly 9 ins. The year as a whole has been a wet one, shewing a rainfall of 35 ins. which is about 5 ins. over the average.

The prevailing wind was as it always is from the S.W and it is from this quarter that we get our rain, for there were almost double the number of wet days with a S.W wind than there were

(5)

wet days with the wind in all the other quarters put together.

Rain fell on 163 days of the year.

The lowest temperature recorded throughout the year was 16°F which was registered during the nights (7th to 10th of February) that is to say 16° of frost F.

I am Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant

John Lowry M.D.A.
20 Feb 1807

without self-sacrifice, though one out of every two or three does this
more than the other, and in fact there
are four or five thousand persons who have
done this and more, and nothing else but this. That
is the result of a great deal of
self-sacrifice and
personal sacrifice.

With regard